

MAXIM SEES A WAR COMING

YELLOW CLOUD FROM THE EAST TO DELUGE THE OCCIDENT.

Calls Disarmament Impracticable—Holt and Other Economic Club Speakers Disagree With Him—Meyer on Improved Navy and Navy Yard Waste.

The Economic Club, which dined last evening several times every year and discusses as an aid to digestion the coming of international peace, met for the fourth time this year at the Hotel Astor last night. The subject for discussion was "International Arbitration, Its Economic and Political Aspects." The guests of honor were the Secretary of the Navy, George von L. Meyer; Rear Admiral Alfred T. Mahan, U. S. N., and Allen Baker, a member of the British Parliament.

Of these Secretary Meyer was the only one who spoke. The other speakers were Hamilton Holt, the editor of the *Independent*; Hudson Maxim, powder expert and analyzer of poetry; Samuel J. Elder and Baron D'Estournelles de Constant, a member of the French Senate. The Secretary of the Navy took no sides in the discussion as to whether war shall be abolished. He confined his speech to naval topics—how big gun marksmanship has improved, how much money is wasted on useless navy yards and other matters that appeared to interest the Economic Club. Mr. Holt was all for downing war as quickly as may be. Out-law it, said he.

But Mr. Maxim refused to bless the peace-makers. He shook his side-whiskers sorrowfully over such a refusal to see that the carnivora will always chew up the herbivora and he rumbled gloomily over a great yellow stormcloud he saw rising in the far East, a cloud that Mr. Maxim predicted would burst with unprecedented fury upon the Occident. Mr. Elder and the French Baron took Mr. Holt's side in the discussion. Peace, said they; peace by all means.

James Speyer, the banker, presided and did considerably more legwork than is usual for a toastmaster. There was no guest table. Mr. Speyer, like the speakers, sat at a small round table far removed from a flag draped box into which the speakers mounted in turn. It was his duty to lead them to and from the box and sometimes to pluck their coats-tails gently as a proof that even oratory may be checked by peaceful methods.

With guests of the members there were perhaps eight hundred present in the grand ballroom. Looking around one identified Charles L. Sicard, Ernest W. Lovejoy, Francis W. Aymer, Rastus S. Ransom, Moses H. Grossman, Willis G. Nash, Arthur L. Livermore, Frank G. Wild, John Harsanyi, Clarence J. Shearn, Francis I. du Pont, William R. Wilcox, Isaac N. Seligman, Irving T. Bush, F. B. Jennings, Isidor Straus, Henry C. Lewis, Isaac K. Funk, William B. Howland, Robert Erskine Ely, Frederick P. Koppel, R. C. Colt, Wyllis Torrey, Edward Lauterbach, George F. D. Trask, E. A. de Lima, Walter D. Hines, Prof. Edwin R. A. Seligman, Lawson Purdy, the Rev. Dr. Thomas R. Slicer, Henry Morgenthau, Ludwig Nissen, Seneca S. Pratt, Charles A. Conant, Rufus W. Scott, John A. Schleicher, Alfred Brooks, Morrisman, George A. Plimpton, Henry Alexander, James K. Aggar, Franklin G. Brown, Wright D. Goss and Frederick P. Moore.

The Secretary of the Navy was the first to be escorted to the speakers' box. In his talk on the navy Mr. Meyer said:

There are strong evidences that we are reaching a psychological period when it will be necessary not only to conserve the resources of the country but also to study and strive for the best economic and scientific methods in all that relates to agriculture and manufacture. Evidently we are no longer to be "rich enough" as a nation without economic care. We must have better management without waste.

For the last two years within the Navy Department we have been making a study of organization and the economic and scientific management of the resources of the navy. And I want to call attention to what the naval officer has accomplished on the battleship through practicing the principles of scientific management. Though not known by name, this has been practiced in the last few years and has brought about a wonderful increase in gunnery efficiency. Scientific management experts who saw the recent battle practice told me the battleship is the finest exhibition of scientific management they have ever seen.

In 1908 the percentage of hits at the target was 53 per cent. Today it is 81-1-3, although the range has increased from 3,000 yards to over 10,000 yards. The rate of fire then was one shot in five minutes, while today it is two shots in one minute. A comparison of the increased rate of fire shows that we are 120 times better today than we were in 1908. This has been brought about by better appliances and by systematic study of the men and their qualifications and the recognition of the necessity of placing men, after a careful test, in duties in which they do the best.

About ten years ago a system of competition in gunnery was established in which all the gun pointers and gun crews took part. Beneficial results were instantaneous. Having trained and developed the individual it was necessary to coordinate the work of the entire gun crew in order to bring about team work. With this accomplished the speed and accuracy of firing the guns was marvellously increased and the hitting efficiency raised to a standard of excellence which is the equal if not the superior of any in the world.

The measure of battle efficiency of any vessel is her ability to deliver the greatest number of hits in the shortest possible time with the least expenditure of ammunition after the enemy is sighted. The battle value of a fleet is the combination of this gunnery skill with which it is handled by its Admiral.

The division of the navy to the nation is its military efficiency, and therefore what we are striving for is to declare as great a dividend in efficiency as is possible by economic and improved methods. The organization until lately has differed very little from that of 1862, when the expenditures amounted to about \$25,000,000. The work was being carried on by heads of bureaus who were at times working at variance with each other and not in accord with the Secretary. The aim of the present organization has been to arrange these bureaus into logical divisions and to have experts assigned to the Secretary who would give responsible advice. In order to bring this about there were established divisions, with an expert adviser at the head of each, selected because of his qualifications.

The organization has been established within two years to a great extent on lines which have proved most advantageous. The English and German navies are in our own modern and successful establishments. This organization has proved both efficient and economical and will continue to be useful in the future. Public sentiment calls on Congress to make it statutory.

The organization in modern days realize the value of knowing the exact cost of manufacture. Formerly the cost of the products of one yard with those of another was not even possible to obtain. For this reason expert accountants were introduced with this

organization and a system of bookkeeping established by which trial balances are regularly furnished and exact costs known.

A year ago seven store accounts were consolidated into one, which resulted in economy in the amount of stores on hand and the reduction of space assigned for storage, also avoided a duplication of stores, with less money tied up in stores. As a result of this it was possible to turn back to the Treasury \$2,700,000, which was the liquidation of the naval supply fund.

One of the chief causes of great expenditures in the navy is the excessive number of navy yards on the Atlantic coast and Gulf of Mexico. This has been brought about in many instances from a desire on the part of Congressmen to have navy yards located in their States, while other yards which were established in Colonial days have been built up unnecessarily, due to the fact that it was the ambition of the individual member to see that the yard in his State should be at least equal to those in other States, without taking into consideration its value from a military and economic point of view. As a result we have on the Atlantic coast nine navy yards, where money has been expended lavishly in some instances, which would not have been needed for a strategic and economic point of view only had been considered.

Last year as a beginning I recommended to Congress that the yards at New Orleans, Pensacola, Port Royal, New London, Sacketts Harbor, San Juan, Culebra and Cavite be abolished, which would have brought about a saving irrespective of the price which the Government might have obtained for these properties, of an annual maintenance expense of \$1,600,000. Not a single navy yard was abolished by Congress, although it has been demonstrated that every one of those yards is a needless drain upon the Government's financial resources.

For instance, New Orleans is badly located. Its position, 100 miles up the river, is such that in time of war or threatened war no large vessels should be sent there on account of the danger of the passes being blocked. Florida has two navy yards, and by the abolishment of Pensacola there would still be left one yard, Key West, in an advantageous position. South Carolina has two yards, Port Royal and Charleston. The yard at Port Royal is absolutely useless. It has a dock which was built at a cost of about \$200,000. It cannot be approached by a battleship. Sacketts Harbor is located on Lake Ontario. New London, which is nothing more than a coaling station behind the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad bridge, and San Juan and Culebra are unnecessary as they are, while Cavite at Manila has been the Government since 1898 eleven millions of dollars.

When the Panama Canal opens and the fleet spends probably an equal amount of time in each ocean the work for the Atlantic yards will be much reduced and it will be better to have fewer yards. By proper reduction in navy yards there would be a vast saving of money in maintenance and a realization of funds from the sale of real estate.

The fleet on July 1 will be made up of twenty-one battleships. Its being kept in the water is safeguarded to the nation and its military efficiency an insurance against war. The fleet will be made up of a battleship for the Commander in Chief and four divisions of five ships each, four of each division being kept in active commission and the fifth of each division in the fleet of the reserve. It is the policy of the future, however, is for the fleet to maintain itself and make its own repairs as far as possible, going to the navy yards only for docking and alterations and for such repairs as cannot be made at sea. The importance of keeping the units to sea is self-evident.

Editor Holt of the *Independent* said that the peace movement is nothing but the substitution of law for war. Peace, said he, is the outcome of justice, justice of law, law of political organization. He said that the peace movement is nothing but the substitution of law for war. Peace, said he, is the outcome of justice, justice of law, law of political organization. He said that the peace movement is nothing but the substitution of law for war. Peace, said he, is the outcome of justice, justice of law, law of political organization.

There is no such thing, properly speaking, as a body of international law. It is in the same state of development that private law was at about the tenth century. The theories of a study of the formation of the United States discloses the method for the organization of the world into the united nations. The united nations at this moment is in existence by the fact of the Hague conference, the promise of the Supreme Court of the world, and the fact of the recurring Hague conferences are the prophecy of the international parliament. [Applause.]

"As we perfect these it will be possible, if we so desire, to add some sort of an international executive power and that some day the internationalization of the world. But this process of internationalization must be very slow. How can it be hastened? First, by the education of public opinion, so that the nations at sea would be the goal of world federation and second, by the formation among a few nations in advance of the rest of a league of peace to settle all their disputes by arbitration. This is a need for our nations not so civilized. [Applause.]

"The proposed treaty of arbitration of unlimited scope between Great Britain, France and the United States is the first step toward the Hague conference, which summated it will be the beginning of the end of war. [Applause.] President Taft will have done more than any other statesman in history to hasten the day sure to come when the victor Hugo prophecy will be realized. The only battleship should be the market open to commerce and the mind open to new ideas. [Applause.]

Mr. Maxim didn't agree at all. An arbitration treaty, he thought, would be a sharp competing nations would be as impracticable, said he, as arbitration between the carnivora and the herbivora. No pact could settle individual and selfish interests, he thought. He continued: He believed that the Anglo-Saxon, the Teuton, the Latin, the African and the Oriental would ever meet each other on common ground. Then he turned his head toward the East and said: "The great yellow stormcloud is slowly rising along the whole Eastern sky," said he. "It is only a question of time when the storm will burst upon the Occident with unrelenting fury."

Even if we get arbitration and are able to divert money from expensive warships and armaments and military supplies it wouldn't do the people any good, Mr. Maxim feared. The graters would get the cash.

"International arbitration," he went on, "will ultimately become a political machine. Nothing can prevent it. There is no reason to believe that these politicians who will have control of the international arbitration machine will be any more honest than other machine politicians."

"What an enormous field of graft it will be," said he, "when some weaker nation tries to get its rights at the coming international tribunal." [Frowns.]

If we could get out of municipal graft, pension, graft and Government graft, we could save enough money, Mr. Maxim said, to build up an army and the navy big enough to make permanent peace certain. Also if we had a good enough and well enough enforced law to stop glory and theft there would be no complaint about extravagance in the military and naval establishments.

Mr. Maxim concluded, "It is a beautiful dream, but it certainly does seem to me impracticable and impracticable. The coming international tribunal will need all its funds to enforce its mandates."

HEARD IN HOTEL CORRIDORS

CAUGHT A TARPON IN 19 MINUTES FROM STRIKE TO GAFF.

And, Sir, Fifty Others Jumped at Dr. Lawton in the Moonlight—Peacock Alley Is Boasted Up—An Exile Sees Coney and Starts the Japanese.

Dr. H. A. Lawton, whom Warren, Ohio, claims as a citizen but who stays down in Miami as long as the fishing is good, got back from Florida yesterday and reported several records. Every year the doctor lingers longer down there, and usually he brings back a contribution to placatorial lore. This is his report as rendered yesterday at the Wolcott:

"I have been fishing most recently at Key Largo, and there on the night of May 10 I made a time record catch of a 151 pound tarpon, the whole operation from strike to gaff taking only twelve minutes."

"I went there to try my new boat. She is the Ironclad, lately owned by Dr. Voller of Rochester, and is an auxiliary yacht. She is of extremely light draught, which enables me to go almost anywhere. It was a clear moonlight night. I was using a 21 ply line."

"I fished some time without success, and when I looked at my watch and saw it was long past midnight I decided to stop. But even as I came to this decision there was a tug at my line. By the watch it was two minutes to 1. Well, sir, I did some quick work, and at ten minutes past I had the big fellow on the gaff."

"But as that fish jumped I saw the greatest sight of my life. When he left the water no fewer than fifty others followed him, jumping away up into the air as if they had been muzzled. Their scales flashed in the moonlight; they jumped up on every side of me. I wish I had fifty lines and fifty pairs of arms so that I could have a try at some of them."

"That reminds me of the adventure of a friend of mine who was on my houseboat not long ago. He is Dr. Harry Sherman, well known in New York. Dr. Sherman had never caught anything as big as a minnow, but he did not let on to us but what he was all kinds of a great sport in the fishing line. I got on to him, though, and when one night he had been telling us a lot about Indians I happened to think of a canoe I kept on top of my houseboat, which I knew was better than his, and I put it in the water and laid a piece of canvas in the bottom without his seeing what I was doing, and then I suggested that he get into the canoe and show us how an Indian would catch a big fish. He climbed into the canoe, which was then filling with water, and another man baited a tarpon out and handed it to him. The doctor immediately cast in a fifty he was struggling with a couple of about thirty minutes."

"Then for the first time he noticed that the canoe was filling with water. He had on a new pair of tight fitting flannel trousers, but he just squatted down in the water and held his breath. He was a big fish, a big green fly alighted on the end of his nose and clung there biting, but the doctor was game. He didn't know enough about fishing to pull the fish but he did hang onto him so occupied that he let the fly stay where it was. We got out the launch in a hurry and reached Dr. Sherman as the canoe filled. All you could see of him above water was his head and his body was in the water. He was a big fish, a big green fly alighted on the end of his nose and clung there biting, but the doctor was game. He didn't know enough about fishing to pull the fish but he did hang onto him so occupied that he let the fly stay where it was. We got out the launch in a hurry and reached Dr. Sherman as the canoe filled. All you could see of him above water was his head and his body was in the water. 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